

Appln No. 10/718,478
Amdt date May 9, 2007
Reply to Office action of February 9, 2007

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office action dated February 9, 2007, the examiner rejected claim 10 as allegedly indefinite, asserting that "the linear carbonate" and "the cyclic carbonate" limitations in that claim lack proper antecedent basis. Applicant has amended claim 10 to recite a non-aqueous organic solvent comprising ethylene carbonate and a linear carbonate selected from the group consisting of dimethyl carbonate (DMC), diethyl carbonate (DEC), methylethyl carbonate (MEC) and mixtures thereof. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

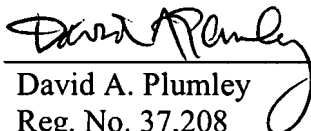
In addition, the examiner rejected claims 1-4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by Hamamoto, et al. (JP 11-329494). In response, applicants submit herewith English translations of the Korean priority documents, establishing an effective filing date of January 21, 2000, and a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 noting a date of invention prior to the earliest effective filing date of Hamamoto, namely November 30, 1999. As noted in this declaration, applicants invented the subject matter of the present application, and reduced it to practice prior to the November 30, 1999 filing date of the Hamamoto reference. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection over Hamamoto.

Claims 1-4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 17 remain pending in this application, with claims 5-7, 9, 12, 14, 16 and 18 being withdrawn from consideration. Applicants have amended claim 10 solely to correct the dependency of that claim. No matter is presented. Accordingly, applicants submit that all of pending claims 1-4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15 and 17 are in condition for allowance.

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Applicants therefore respectfully request a timely indication of allowance. However, if there are any remaining issues that can be addressed by telephone, applicants invite the examiner to contact applicants' counsel at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,
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